

Church Council Meeting Minutes January 14, 2010

In Attendance: Pastor Baumgartner, Lorrie Hayne, Ron Peterson, Joy Brown, Joan Jarombek, Mary Lanoux, Terry O'Keefe, and Christena Watson.

Devotions led by Joy Brown.

Minutes of December 15, 2009 Meeting: No objections were made and the council voted to accept the corrected minutes of the December 15th Council Meeting.

Pastor's Report: Pastor Ralph and Katherine would like to thank everyone for the generous cash gift given to them on Christmas Eve. They deeply appreciate this sign of affirmation and your warmest regards for us. Thanks to all who volunteered in some way to host homeless families through Project Home in December. The sanctuary was beautifully decorated during the Christmas holidays and we appreciate the behind-the-scenes work of the Altar Guild. The "Light of the World" Christmas program on December 13th and the meal that followed was fabulous. Thanks to everyone who had a role in it. Conference Assemblies, a preliminary to the Synod Assembly, is gathering at Christ the King in New Brighton, Sunday, February 21st. We are allowed to have our pastor and two lay persons vote. Pastor Ralph and Katherine will be on vacation February 13 - 16 (President's Day weekend) for their annual cross-country ski trip on the North Shore. Dan Simundson has consented to preach and preside and holy communion that Sunday. The St. Paul Synod offers a training opportunity for congregational leaders on Saturday, February 27th, at St. Mark's in No. St. Paul. Save the date. More information later.

Financial Secretary Report: Given by Mary Lanoux. December pledged giving was under by \$416.00. Pledges given are under \$3,590.00 for YTD. Ron made a motion to accept the corrected Financial Secretary's Report. Motion was seconded by Joan. The motion was passed.

Treasurer's Report: Peter Solberg was not at the meeting and no report was available.

Savings Account Report: No report was provided.

Team Reports: *Education / Youth* - Given by Terry. GLOW is off to a busy start. The team needs to decide if we are having VBS this year. Cindy needs the team to decide where the Globe money will go.

Outreach - The committee has been in contact and will be donating some money to the Haiti relief effort.

Other Business: *Community Garden* - Given by Ron and Terry. There have been some concerns expressed about the community garden as presented. Ron and Terry plan on speaking about the community garden at the annual meeting. If the larger community garden is not approved by the congregation, an idea was suggested to have a small garden space for the youth participating in GLOW. Other options to bring our neighbors in need to be explored. The "neighbors" are not necessarily just the ones across the street but moving some blocks away. There was a lot of outside interest in the garden and it is important to keep the interest alive with other options. *Contract with Efeso Church* - Given by Pastor Ralph. Pastor Ralph and Miriam Peterson will be meeting with Pastor César López to renegotiate the contract. It was suggested by the Council that the rent be raised to \$400 per month and the lease be for six months with a review held to see if the stipulations in the contract are being upheld.

Constitution Update - At the Churchwide Assembly in August there were some amendments to the Model Constitution for Congregations approved. Galilee will present these amendments to the congregation at the annual meeting. There needs to be 30 days written notice of the changes before the congregation can vote on them. We can either hold a special meeting at a later date or wait until the next annual meeting to vote on the changes.

2010 Census - Representatives of the 2010 Census in our area would like to use our facilities for the recruitment of census workers. They are not able to pay rent. The council gave the OK for them to use our facilities during

regular hours when someone from our congregation is available to be there.

Simply Giving - Thrivent Financial for Lutherans is partnering with Zanco Services to provide Simply Giving to Lutheran congregations if they want it. Through this service a member can have his or her offering electronically taken directly each week from their checking or savings account and go directly into Galilee's checking account. It is likely that this will improve the congregation's giving, especially in the leaner summer months. Zanco charges twenty-five cents per donation. Thrivent will pay five cents which leaves Galilee paying twenty cents per donation. The council discussed and agreed that this is something Galilee should participate in and the approval was given to move forward.

2010 Budget - The council reviewed the preliminary numbers supplied to the Executive Committee. Ron made a motion that this preliminary budget be accepted as is pending no big changes from the Adult Forum on January 17th. Lorrie seconded the motion. Motion passed.

Mortgage Payoff due January 31, 2010 - As of December the current balance on the mortgage loan was \$4,841. Mary contacted the person who originally supplied the loan to see if an extension is possible. They agreed to extend the note up to two years. The agreement will be rewritten for two more years. Pastor Ralph made a motion to recommend the congregation continue paying what they originally pledged to pay towards the mortgage for the next two years. This recommendation is above what they have currently pledged for 2010. He is also recommending the members that have not pledged or are new members since the mortgage fund drive started consider giving to this fund as well. Ron seconded the motion. The motion passed.

Council Resignation - We received a letter of resignation from Ann Fehrman. Florence Matadi has agreed to fulfill Ann's term (2 more years).

Coming Schedule:

- Communion Assistants
January 17 - Joyce Solberg, Lorrie & Joan
January 24 - Assisting Minister
January 31 - Christena, Lorrie & Terry
February 7 - Joan & Teresa Shores
February 14 - Assisting Minister, Ron & Mary

Next Meeting - February 11, 2010, 7:00 p.m.

Christena made a motion to adjourn. Joan seconded the motion. The motion passed and the meeting adjourned at 8:52 p.m.

Respectfully submitted by Joy Brown, Secretary